

WORKSHOP

CALL FOR CONTRIBUTIONS: CHALLENGES IN THE MEASUREMENT OF NATURE IN OFFICIAL STATISTICS

25-26 MAY 2026

Italian National Institute of Statistics (Istat) | Aula Magna, Via Cesare Balbo 14, Rome, Italy

OVERVIEW

In view of the first release of the European Ecosystem Accounts (EA), scheduled for December 2026 under the amended Regulation on Environmental Accounting, significant results have been achieved, based on the SEEA EA conceptual framework. Remaining methodological challenges include the improvement of processes and methods for EA production, the conceptual framing of monetary values connected to ecosystems and their services, the development of links with broader information frameworks on well-being and sustainability.

The workshop “Challenges in the Measurement of Nature in Official Statistics”, organized by ISTAT on 25–26 May 2026 in Rome, offers the opportunity to present scientific contributions on advanced solutions concerning EA in official statistics, aiming to enhance their accuracy, scope and usefulness for informing policy and the public.

This Call for Contributions is issued to collect submissions on innovative methods, solutions, and insights for EA production and communication. Selected contributions will be included in the event agenda next to the planned presentations.

STRUCTURE OF WORKSHOP

Four substantive sessions are foreseen:

1. **From environmental and territorial statistics to ecosystem accounting**, exploring the challenges of defining ecosystems, mapping them and assessing their condition and dynamics from a nature restoration perspective, analysing the demand for thematic and geographical sources, with a focus on models for ecosystem services’ estimates.
2. **Accounting for the diverse economic values connected to ecosystems**, addressing the measurement of the economic importance of ecosystems and of the costs of inaction, in multiple values and non-pricing perspectives.
3. **The role of ecosystem accounting in “beyond GPD” measures**, focussing on the conceptual and informational importance of EA’s potential contribution to multi-dimensional information systems.
4. **Round table on policy implications and methodological challenges**, addressing the policy relevance of information on monetary and non-monetary values on ecosystem services and reflecting on how official statistical institutions may best meet these methodological challenges.

Substantial time will be devoted to discussions among the presenters and between them and the public.

CALL FOR CONTRIBUTIONS: PARTICIPATION AND SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

Key topics

Contributors will help develop innovative approaches to the compilation and interpretation of ecosystem accounts, touching upon key topics for methodological development, such as:

- maximising the usefulness of ecosystem accounts in a nature restoration needs perspective;
- exploring the relationship between ecosystem conditions and ecosystem services;
- understanding the roles of ecosystem services' demand and supply in determining their actual flows;
- measuring the exchange value of economic flows and stocks that directly or indirectly depend upon ecosystems and their services;
- potential use of Ecosystem Accounts in policy-relevant, multidimensional information systems developed in the "beyond GDP" perspective.

Type and format of submissions

Would-be contributors are invited to present the abstract of their intended presentation (maximum 300 words), using the supplied [template](#).

Submission procedure and deadline

Please send your abstract to: EAMethodologicalWorkshop@istat.it by 20 April 2026.

Selection and participation

The proposed contributions will be evaluated by the workshop referent with the relevant session chair. Responses will be given individually by email to the sender's address by the end of April 2026. At least 2 contributions for each of sessions will be selected for inclusion in the workshop programme. Depending on the quality of the submissions, the organisers may decide to reduce the time allocated for each individual presentation in order to allow for the broadest coverage and participation.

CONTRIBUTION FORMATS

All **presentations** must be in a 16:9 PowerPoint format. Istat affiliates must use the [Istat Centenary Standard](#). **Papers** are welcome but not strictly necessary. They must be consistent with the approved abstract and presentation.

ENQUIRIES

For any clarification or special need, please write to EAMethodologicalWorkshop@istat.it.